

C. Remarks

The claims are 15, 22, 26, 27, 29, 30 and 33, with claims 15 and 29 being independent. Claims 31 and 32 have been cancelled. Claims 15, 29 and 30 have been amended. Support for the amendment may be found, inter alia, in the specification at page 13, lines 17-22 (claims 15 and 29), and page 26, lines 15-16 (claim 30). New claim 33 has been added. Support for this claim may be found, inter alia, in Fig. 4. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the present claimed is expressly requested.

Claims 15, 22, 26, 27 and 29-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement.

With respect to claims 15 and 29, the Examiner has alleged that the amendment specifying that the second polycarbonate resin has a viscosity average molecular weight of 20,000 or more allegedly has no basis in the specification as filed and noted that the specification discloses only the viscosity average molecular weight of 20,000 for the second polycarbonate. The Examiner has concluded that because of the lack of disclosure of the claimed range of viscosity average molecular weight, the claims allegedly contain new matter.

Without agreeing with the propriety of the above rejection and solely to expedite prosecution of the subject application, claims 15 and 29 have been amended to delete the recitation regarding the second polycarbonate resin and to specify that the content of the polycarbonate resin with a viscosity average molecular weight of less than 15,000 is from 30 to 95 part by weight of the total amount of the polycarbonate resin blend. Accordingly, the above rejection related to claims 15 and 29 should be withdrawn.

Claims 31 and 32 stand rejected because the specification allegedly fails to disclose a process unit as recited in these claims having only the photosensitive member and the cleaning blade.

Again, without agreeing with the propriety of the rejection and solely to expedite prosecution, claims 31 and 32 have been cancelled. Accordingly, the above rejection directed to these claims is moot and should be withdrawn.

Claim 27 stands rejected because of an alleged lack of disclosure of a process unit detachably mountable to a main body of an image forming apparatus having only the claimed photosensitive member, charging member and cleaning member. Applicants respectfully disagree.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 27 is fully supported by Fig. 7 and the corresponding disclosure in the specification at page 27, lines 18-20. In particular, the specification states that “the process cartridge PC may be divided into a block BR-A and a block BR-B which are shown by the broken lines in Fig. 7.” Accordingly, the specification shows a process unit detachably mountable on the main body having only the claimed elements.

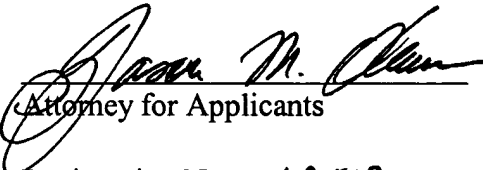
Claim 30 stands rejected because of an alleged lack of disclosure of the use of an AC voltage in the charging member of the unit as claimed.

Applicants have amended claim 30 to clarify that charging member is chargeable with AC voltage, as disclosed in the specification at page 26, lines 15-16. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 30 should be withdrawn.

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the outstanding section 112, first paragraph, rejection and expedient passage to issue of the subject application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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